

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please delete Claims 3-5, 10, 13, 15-21, 24-29 and 30-43 without prejudice.

Kindly amend the following claim:

1. A method for producing and delivering protein in vivo comprising the steps of:
 - (a) inserting into a vector a promoter which is active only in progenitor cells of red blood cells, and a gene encoding a protein which is non-native to red blood cells, wherein said promoter and said gene are operably linked;
 - (b) collecting an amount of progenitor cells of red blood cells from a mammal;
 - (c) transfecting said progenitor cells of red blood cells in vitro with said vector containing said promoter and said gene;
 - (d) introducing the transfected progenitor cells of red blood cells back to said mammal, wherein the transfected progenitor cells of red blood cells produce altered red blood cells containing said protein which is non-native to red blood cells in vivo in said mammal, and wherein said protein which is non-native to red blood cells is contained only in said altered red blood cells, and thereafter said protein which is non-native to red blood cells is released into a bloodstream of said mammal through rupture of said altered red blood cells.

REMARKS

1. Remarks on the Amendment

Applicant has deleted without prejudice Claims 3-5, 10, 13, 15-21, 24-29 and 30-43. Claims 3-5, 10, 13, 15-21, 24-29 have been deleted to reduce the rejections to a single issue for consideration by the Examiner. Claims 30-43 have been cancelled as